

First with respect to the objections to the specification, a new page setting out the Abstract is enclosed for entry into the application. The Abstract set out on the enclosed page sets out the same text as the Abstract that was set out on page 2 of Applicant's Response to Official Action of December 19, 2000. Sequence ID numbers in accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.821 *et seq.* were provided in both the paper and machine readable copies of the sequence listings that were submitted with Applicant's Response to Official Action of December 19, 2000. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections to the specification are respectfully requested.

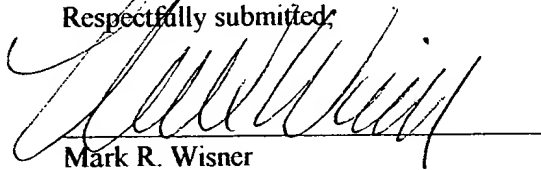
With respect to the §102 rejection of claims 1-7, although it is alleged in the Action that these references "clearly anticipate" the claims of the present application, Applicant is unable to find any mention of certain claimed elements in these references such that, as far as Applicant can tell, the cited references do not anticipate claims. In Applicant's previous Response, the Examiner was requested to cite the particular part of the cited references relied upon in making the §102 rejections (37 C.F.R. 1.106(b)), and without the guidance provided by citations to particular parts of the references, Applicant is unable to determine why these references are considered anticipatory of the claimed method. Applicant has even carefully reviewed the specific portions of the cited references to which attention was directed in Applicant's co-pending application Serial No. 09/169,793 and cannot find any disclosure of such elements as a primer binding site, a primer binding site that is located in a 3' position relative to an inverted tandem repeat, a sequence complementary to a sequence of interest that is flanked by 3' and 5' complementary sequences comprising an inverted tandem repeat, or even the production of ssDNA *in vivo*, all as called out in claim 1. Similarly, Applicant is unable to find the elements recited in claim 7 in the cited references. Applicant did not intend to offend by asking for help identifying the relevant portions of the cited references in the previous Response and apologizes if any offense was taken; Applicant instead intended merely to request information in attempt to advance the prosecution of the application.

Because Applicant is unable to find the claimed elements in the cited references, Applicant traverses the §102 rejection of claims 1 and 7. Additionally, Applicant traverses the §102 rejection of claims 2-6 because those claims recite elements that are not disclosed in the cited references.

Before concluding, and in accordance with MPEP 2001.06(b), Applicant directs attention to Applicant's co-pending application Serial No. 09/169,793. Serial No. 09/169,793 is the parent application of the captioned application, and in directing attention to the parent application, Applicant is not admitting that the parent application is prior art to the claims of the captioned application.

Entry of the attached Abstract, consideration of the remarks set out herein, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, allowance of the claims, and passage of the application to issuance are respectfully requested. In the event there are questions, it is respectfully requested that Applicant's counsel be contacted at the address and telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark R. Wisner
Registration No. 30,603
Wisner & Associates
2925 Briarpark, Suite 930
Houston, TX 77042
Telephone: (713) 785-0555
Facsimile: (713) 785-0561

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Date: August 22, 2002